

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 SCI-06 FPC-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11

NEA-11 RSC-01 AGR-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

EB-11 FRB-02 H-03 INR-10 INT-08 L-03 LAB-06 NSAE-00

NSC-10 PA-04 AID-20 CIEP-02 SS-20 STR-08 TAR-02

TRSE-00 PRS-01 SPC-03 FEA-02 OMB-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 DRC-01 /235 W
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O R 221933Z JAN 74 ZFF4
FM USMISSION USUN NY
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2405
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 0213

STATE ALSO FOR T/IEP

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ENEG, UR, FR
SUBJ: ENERGY--FRENCH PROPOSAL FOR UN ENERGY CONFERENCE

REF: PARIS 1707

1. DURING COURSE OF MONDAY, JANUARY 21, AMB FERGUSON
GATHERED THE FOLLOWING REACTIONS TO THE FRENCH PROPOSAL
FOR UN ENERGY CONFERENCE.

2. MAKEYEV (SMUN) INDICATED THAT SOVIET MISSION UNIN-
STRUCTED AT THE MOMENT. HE EXPRESSED HIS PERSONAL VIEW
THAT CORRECT POSITION WOULD BE FOR SOVIETS TO OPPOSE
HOLDING OF CONFERENCE. HE INDICATED REASONS WERE (A)
SOVIETS HAD OBJECTED TO DATE (ALTHOUGH NOT OPPOSED) US INITIATIVE
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WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN 1974 OR EVEN EARLY

'75. HE REMINDED FERGUSON THAT SOVIET POSITION RESTED ON FACT THAT THEY COULD NOT HANDLE TWO MAJOR CONFERENCES IN SAME YEAR AND OBVIOUSLY WOULD BE UNABLE TO HANDLE A THIRD MAJOR CONFERENCE IN '74 OR EARLY '75. (B) HE ADDED ALSO THAT ENERGY PROBLEM NOT WORLDWIDE LIKE FOOD PROBLEM OBVIOUSLY IMPLYING SOVIET BLOCK DID NOT HAVE MAJOR ENERGY CRISIS. AND (C) THAT THIS WAS FRENCH INITIATIVE AND THERE NO REAL DETENTE BETWEEN SOVIETS AND FRENCH LIKE BETWEEN US AND SOVIETS.

3. ALGERIAN REP TO ECOSOC SOUGHT OUT AMB FERGUSON IN DEL LOUNGE TO INQUIRE WHEN DISCUSSIONS COULD BE HAD BETWEEN ALGERIAN DEL AND OURSELVES ON MAPPING STRATEGY TO ABORT FRENCH PROPOSAL--FERGUSON GAVE WAFLING ANSWER BASED ON NECESSITY EXAMINING CLOSELY IMPLICATIONS OF FRENCH PROPOSAL AND INSTRUCTIONS FROM DEPARTMENT.

4. FERGUSON INQUIRED OF ROUHE (FRENCH REP ECOSOC)AS TO PRECISE MEANING FRENCH LETTER TO SYG REFTEL. ROUHE INDICATED THAT LETTER WAS AS FAR AS FRENCH HAD GONE, THAT THEY GENUINELY INTERESTED IN REACTIONS OF OTHER DELS BOTH ON SUBSTANCE OF PROPOSAL AND ON THE MOST CONVENIENT PROCEDURE FOR CONVOKING CONFERENCE. FERGUSON OBSERVED THAT RESPONSE RATHER VAGUE AND NONCOMMITTAL, TO WHICH ROUHE OBSERVED IN TURN THAT ANSWERS HE GIVING FERGUSON ARE ALMOST PRECISELY SAME ANSWERS FERGUSON GAVE HIM REGARDING US PROPOSED WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE.

5. COMMENT: IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT THERE ARE THREE PROCEDURAL ROUTES BY WHICH FRENCH COULD SEEK TO CONVOKE CONFERENCE, I.E. A) UNDER CHARTER ECOSOC ITSELF CAN CALL SYSTEM-WIDE CONFERENCE WITHOUT GOING TO GA; B) ECOSOC OUT OF EITHER SPECIAL OR REGULAR SESSION COULD REQUEST THAT GA CONVENE CONFERENCE--WHICH WAS DONE IN CASE OF WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE; AND C) SINCE GA ADJOURNED SINCE DIE, IT (28TH GA) COULD BE RECONVENED TO CONSIDER FRENCH INITIATIVE.
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